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Standing room only

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Local

www.postvillenewspaper.com

Jibbersih by Julie; remembering the many uses of Grandma's apron in days gone by

The other day when Kris Larson from Postville was to meet me, she was running late and had her Christmas apron on. She brought a pan of cookies fresh from the oven which was a real treat.

Kris in her apron reminded me of an e-mail I received about aprons. I don't think most kids know what an apron is. I revised the e-mail a little to make it into an article. Hopefully this will bring back memories of your childhood baking times. I know it did for me.

The principal use of Grandma's apron was to protect the dress underneath, because she only had a few, it was easier to wash aprons than dresses and they used less material, but along with that, it served as a potholder for removing hot pans from the oven.

It was wonderful for drying children's tears, and on occasion was even used for cleaning out dirty ears. From the chicken coop, the apron was used for carrying eggs, fussy chicks, and sometimes half-hatched eggs to be finished in the warming oven.

And when the weather was cold, grandma wrapped it around her arms.

Those big old aprons wiped many a perspiring brow, bent over the hot wood stove. Chips and kindling wood were brought into the kitchen in that apron.

From the garden, it carried all sorts of vegetables. After the peas had been shelled, it carried out the hulls. In the fall, the apron was used to bring in apples that had fallen from the trees.

When unexpected company drove up the road, it was

surprising how much furniture that old apron could dust in a matter of seconds. When company came, those aprons were ideal hiding places for shy kids.

When dinner was ready, Grandma walked out onto the porch, waved her apron, and the men knew it was time to come in from the fields to dinner. It will be a long time before someone invents something that will replace that 'old-time apron' that served so many purposes.

Grandma would go crazy now trying to figure out how many germs were on that apron. I don't think I ever caught anything from an apron.

Enjoy these recipes from Kris and I that are sure to be great holiday treats.

Kris Larson's "Kitchen Sink" Cookies

(Everything's in them, except the kitchen sink) This is a Kris Larson original.

1 1/2 cup butter or margarine
2 cups flour
1 1/2 cup shortening
1 tsp soda
1 cup granulated sugar
1 1/2 tsp baking powder
1 cup brown sugar
1 1/2 tsp salt
2 large eggs
1 1/2 cups quick oats
2 tsp vanilla
1 1/2 cups flake cereal (I like frosted flakes gently crushed)
1 cup shredded coconut
1 1/2 cup chopped nuts (pecan or hickory are best – walnut are OK)
1 – 12 oz bag of milk chocolate chips (or 1 1/2 bag of semi sweet and 1 1/2 bag of milk chocolate chips)
1 1/2 cup toffee bits (this

item is optional)

Heat oven to 375 degrees. Mix thoroughly margarine, shortening, granulated sugar, brown sugar, eggs and vanilla. Stir in remaining dry ingredients. Add nuts, chocolate chips and toffee bits after dough is mixed.

Form dough into balls and flatten slightly. Bake on greased baking sheet for 10-12 minutes, until very light brown. Leave on baking sheet for 5 minutes. Cookies will finish baking while cooling. Remove from pan and cool on rack.

Norma Byer's Old Fashioned Molasses Cookies

Kris Larson's mother was Norma Byer.

3 1/4 cup white sugar
1 large egg
1 1/2 cup shortening
1 1/2 cup hot water (or you can use sour milk)
1 1 1/2 tsp soda dissolved in 1 1 1/2 tbsp vinegar
1 1/2 tsp vanilla
1 1/2 cup molasses
1 1/2 tsp salt
1 1/2 tsp ginger
1 1/2 tsp cinnamon
4-4 1/2 cup flour
Mix together wet ingredients until smooth. Then stir in the dry ingredients. Dough should be soft but not wet. Refrigerate for one hour.

Roll dough out on floured surface 1/4 inch thick. Cut with cookie cutters into desired shapes.

Spray baking sheets with cooking spray. Bake in 375 degree oven until cookie is set – 10-12 minutes. Cool on rack.

Frost and decorate. Cookies are quite thick with a cake like consistency.



Standing room only

A standing room only crowd filled Turner Hall last Thursday as Lt. Governor Patty Judge and several other politicians came to Postville to give support to the 100's of workers affected by the closing of and filing of Chapter 11 Bankruptcy by Agriprocessors, Inc.

White Mice (Mexican Wedding Cakes)
1 1/2 c. powdered sugar
1 tsp. vanilla
1 c. butter
1 1/2 c. chopped nuts
2 c. flour

Cream butter and powdered sugar. Add flour gradually. Then add nuts and vanilla. Roll in hands to size of little finger. Bend to half moon shape on cookie sheet. Bake 15 minutes at 375 degrees. Dip in powdered sugar while warm. This was my Grandmother's original recipe but I know many people will roll them into small balls also. I have also heard these known as Russian Tea Cakes. My Grandmother made them with walnuts but I know they are good with pecans also.

Cherry Valley Chums 4-H group elects officers

The Cherry Valley Chums 4-H Club met on November 10, 2008. Hannah Lage led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll Call was given a suggestion for the club's Christmas giving. The club welcomed new members Travis Fish, Kayla Stubbs, Brooke Holthaus, and Dakota Holthaus. If anyone else is interested in joining our club, you are encouraged to fill out an enrollment form as soon as possible.

Old Business that was discussed included the 10-dollar dues per member. They need to be paid as soon as possible. The club fundraiser was held October 18. Thanks to everyone who brought baked goods and door prizes. Items are to be delivered as soon as they arrive. The Annual Awards Day was held Sunday, November 2, in Waukon. Several members earned awards. Thank you to Amy Lage for giving out and collecting the re-enrollment forms. Last meeting, it was discussed that meetings should be moved from Monday night to Sunday night. It was decided to leave meetings on Monday nights, but change the time to 6:00.

New Business that was discussed was what we would do for our Christmas giving. It was decided that we would not have a Cookie Walk this year. Instead, we will go caroling and decorate the doors of the Good Sam residents on Sunday, December 14, at 3:00.

Election and installation of officers was also held. Congratulations to Morgan Deering, President; DayLee Mostaert, Vice President; Jac-

queline Schutte, Treasurer; Theresa Lensing, Reporter; Tanner Deering and Blake Everman, Recreation; Amanda Lage, Photographer; and Mariah Mostaert and Hannah

Lage, Historians.

Tanner Deering led the 4-H Pledge. Thanks to our hosts Jacque and John Schutte.

Theresa Lensing, Reporter

Flashback

Items of Interest from the Archives of The Herald-Leader

•Five Years Ago

•A house was moved onto a lot on Bancroft Street last Friday by owners of the lot, Gerald and Vada Guyer. The Guyers purchased the house and had it moved to Postville.

•The Pirate boys basketball team opened the season with a 65-46 win over Ed-Co. Ryan Zieman was the high scorer with 24 points and also in double figures was Alex Werger with 10.

•Liz Winter and Stephanie Gelo and Kate Heimer entertained with musical selections at the Festival of Trees this weekend.

•Evan Livingood, son of Kelly and Patty Livingood, received a scholarship from the Minnesota Telephone Association.

Ten Years Ago

•A ribbon cutting was held at the recently completed Pheasant Run Apartments in Postville. Participating were State Senator Lyle Zieman, Leigh Rekow, manager Julie Berst, Chris Drahos and Becky Meyer.

•Heather Swenson and Cory Koenig announce their engagement and upcoming marriage. They will repeat vows on Jan. 2 at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

•Marvin Berg, employee of Allamakee-Clayton Cooperative cut down the huge evergreen from in front of the home Lyle and Joanne Groth. They have donated the tree to be used at the Community Christmas Tree and it was moved to a place of honor in Roberts' Park.

Twenty-Five Years Ago

•Work is moving along at a steady pace at the construction site of the new addition to Postville High School.

•Stan Martins had the grand champion and top selling boar at the National Hampshire Meat Hog Conference in Duncan, Oklahoma. The animal sold for \$5,600.

•Marilyn Curnow has announced the winners of the drawing held during the open house at her shop, "The Country Garden last week. The winners were Terri Downing, Mary Turner, Elaine Anderson, Norma Sander and Joyce Heins.

Seventy-Five Years Ago

•Mr and Mrs. J. W. Steele, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sonnkab and family partook of the hospitality of the Mr. and Mrs. George Kohlmann home on Thanksgiving day.

•Fred J. Miller drove to Waukon on last Friday and brought home a whole flock of 1934 auto license plates for car owners on the sunny south side of Postville. The numerals on the cars this year stand out in a golden ear of Iowa corn.

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